

**From:** [Gowers, Joe](#)  
**To:** [Doug Ruccione](#); [Seppi, Pat](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Ringwood Mines - OU2/OU3 Schedule  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 24, 2020 11:07:00 AM

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Doug – As in the past, we expect that the Borough of Ringwood will not sign on to the Administrative Order of Consent for performance of the RD, but will cooperate with Ford by providing access to its property and by conducting a technical review of documents prior to their submittal to EPA and NJDEP. With regards to trucks in the in the Upper Ringwood Area, it appears that Ford initiated groundwater sampling related to the OU2 RA without informing EPA and NJDEP (I just found out this morning). EPA, NJDEP and Ford participate in biweekly calls to coordinate site activities, and Ford failed to mention their intention to initiate this sampling prior to submittal of the Remedial Action Work Plan.

Pat and I have already discussed the need to keep the Upper Ringwood community apprised of activities prior to and during implementation of the OU2 remedial action. The schedule for implementation of the remedial action, which will be included in the RAWP, will be shared with the community. I appreciate your offer to deliver our factsheets to residents' mailboxes, and will discuss this matter with Pat when she returns to the office. Thanks and have a happy Thanksgiving!

Joe

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**From:** Doug Ruccione [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 24, 2020 9:21 AM  
**To:** Gowers, Joe <Gowers.Joe@epa.gov>; Seppi, Pat <Seppi.Pat@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Ringwood Mines - OU2/OU3 Schedule

Joe:

Great to hear from you. I hope you are safe and well during these crazy times. Are you all still in the City or remote?

Thank you for this update.

Will the Borough have to weigh in on the OU3 negotiations? What is their role exactly in the agreement - if any?

Also my main reason for my inquiry about the OU2 work update is because some people have been observing trucks in the Upper Ringwood Area the last few weeks. I am aware of the remediation taking place at the shooting range across from Borough Hall - which is a State site being handled (hopefully) - and I am thinking the trucks have to do with that site at this time.

Is there a communication plan/protocol in place for when work actually begins for OU2? As you know, many of our neighbors in the Upper Ringwood portion of town do not have computers, etc. - but that should not bar them from being in the loop when heavy machinery is coming through. I would be happy to assist in assuring that the residents there are informed - perhaps flyers from the EPA? A hardcopy time line? If you were to send me something official like that I would be sure it gets in every mail box/door step in Upper Ringwood. This would be a good faith effort in assuring that our neighbors up there will be mindful during these work times. As you know probably better than me, these trucks and machines will more than likely not be passing many residential areas other than Upper Ringwood.

I apologize for the sudden bombardment - I have been absent as of late in Ringwood as my job in Teaneck has been nothing short of wild the last few months. Regardless, I appreciate your response and would further appreciate some guidance on the above, if any, from you.

Please be safe and enjoy your Turkey Day if you celebrate. Even in a time of so much uncertainty, there is much to be thankful for!!

On Tue, Nov 24, 2020 at 7:44 AM Gowers, Joe <[Gowers.Joe@epa.gov](mailto:Gowers.Joe@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Doug – I hope all is well. Pat passed on your request for an update on the OU2/OU3 schedule for Ringwood Mines. Please note that for OU2, EPA expects to receive the draft Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) by the end of next month. The draft RAWP will include a proposed schedule for implementation of the OU2 remedy. For OU3, Ford needs to enter into an enforcement agreement with EPA for performance of the OU3 Remedial Design prior to implementation of the design. Earlier this month, Ford confirmed that they wish to enter into this enforcement agreement. It should take a few months for EPA and Ford to negotiate the terms of this agreement before design can commence. The first OU3 design submittal will be the Remedial Design Work Plan.

Joe

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Positive Thoughts

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